

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims pending:

- At time of the Office Action: Claims 1-16, 18-21, and 23-24.
- After this Response: Claims 1-9, 18-21 and 23-24.

Canceled claims: 10-16.

Amended claims: 1, 18, 21, and 24.

New Claims: None.

1. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:
evaluating a current state of each device of a plurality of devices;
assigning devices of the plurality of devices to a group, the assigned
devices each having a substantially common state as other devices in the group;
~~plurality of devices to a group;~~
assigning at least one event-handling policy to the group, wherein the
assigned policy is associated with each of the ~~plurality of devices~~ in the group; and
~~evaluating~~ re-evaluating a current state of each device in the group before the
assigned policy is applied to the ~~device~~ devices in the group.

2. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 wherein evaluating a
current state of each device determines whether each device is currently a member
of the group.

3. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 wherein evaluating a
current state of each device includes:

1 determining whether a particular device is currently a member of the group;
2 and
3 applying the assigned policy to the particular device if the particular device
4 is currently a member of the group.

5
6 4. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 wherein each device is
7 assigned at least one additional policy that is not assigned to the group.

8
9 5. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 wherein a particular
10 device is assigned to multiple groups.

11
12 6. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 wherein the event-
13 handling policy defines how the device is configured.

14
15 7. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 wherein the event-
16 handling policy identifies the types of events that are provided to each device.

17
18 8. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 wherein the method is
19 implemented by a management module.

20
21 9. (Original) One or more computer-readable memories containing
22 a computer program that is executable by a processor to perform the method
23 recited in claim 1.

24
25 10 – 17. (Canceled)

1 18. (Currently Amended) One or more computer-readable media
2 having stored thereon a computer program that, when executed by one or more
3 processors, performs the process of:

4 evaluating a current state of each device of a plurality of devices;

5 assigning devices of the plurality of devices to a group, the assigned
6 devices each having a substantially common state as other devices in the group-a
7 plurality of devices to a group;

8 identifying an event-handling policy associated with the group of devices,
9 wherein the event-handling policy defines how devices are configured;

10 assigning the event-handling policy to the group of devices; and

11 ~~evaluating-revaluating~~ a current state of each device before the assigned
12 event-handling policy is applied to-the device devices in the group.

13
14 19. (Original) One or more computer-readable media as recited in
15 claim 18 wherein a particular device is assigned to multiple groups of devices.

16
17 20. (Previously Presented) One or more computer-readable media as
18 recited in claim 18 wherein the event-handling policy further defines the type of
19 event data that is provided to each device.

20
21 21. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method
22 comprising:

23 determining current states of systems in an enterprise;

24 assigning the systems to groups based on rules associated with the groups
25 and the current states of the systems;

1 assigning policies to at least one particular group;
2 reevaluating ~~the~~ current states of each system in the particular group;
3 if the reevaluated current states are valid according to the rules associated
4 with the particular group, applying the policies to the systems in the particular
5 group; and
6 if ~~the~~ a current states-state of a particular system in the particular group ~~are~~
7 is not valid,
8 updating the particular group to delete the particular system; and
9 applying the policies to the systems in the updated group.

10
11 22. (Canceled)

12
13 23. (Previously Presented) The computer-implemented method as
14 recited in Claim 21, further comprising:
15 creating an event log associated with the particular group; and
16 maintaining information about the states of the systems in the particular
17 group in the event log.

18
19 24. (Currently Amended) The computer-implemented method as
20 recited in Claim 21, wherein the current states represent at least one of a version of
21 an operating system, a location in a geographic region, a configuration of the
22 system, presence of a particular hardware item, or capacity of a particular
23 hardware item.